Jessica Torres

11/17/11

Social Studies Reflection

For my social studies lesson the teacher gave us a lesson to do. She has been teaching 6th grade social studies for twenty years. I think it was hard for her to give up a day in her class, but she was very nice about it. The students had been doing a foldable about China and she asked if we wanted to do the Trade during the Han Dynasty page. This consists of a map of the Silk Road route and then a graphic organizer with Imports and Exports on it. With this lesson even though she told us what to do, she didn’t tell us that we would let the kids mark barriers and then they would come up and draw their own route. I just wished that she had discussed it more in depth with us. She decided that we could watch her teach it in first period and then Aimee could teach it second and then she has a hard time with third, so she taught that period and then I taught fourth period and then she allowed us to teach her last period together. During first period when she was doing it, I was a little worried because when the kids were going up there labeling the barriers, she was correcting them and telling them that was too far this way or that way. So, I was concerned that I wouldn’t know exactly where these things were. I really liked the fact that I got to see this lesson three times before I had to teach it. When I first started I was a little nervous, just because the teacher is so strict, but I loosened up and it went well. The teacher did help me mark exactly where the barriers were, but the students did well with listening to her and moving it if they needed too.

While reading to find out the imports and exports they all did very well listening to each other read and also pointing out the imports and exports as they read. The most challenging thing was the time, with the students doing a lot of the work we started running out of time with the video at the end, at some classes did not get to do the sign game with choosing import and export.

All in all this was a great lesson and I learned a lot from it. It really lets you see how different the students act in the different classes. I just wish with her, she would use her technology to her advantage. It was hard to use that projector with labeling everything, but I guess she is used to it.